



2023 SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS APPLICATION



U.S. CONGRESSMAN DARREN SOTO
REPRESENTING FLORIDA'S NINTH DISTRICT

DEDICATION LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT PATRIOTISM HONOR





Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 26, 2023

Dear Academy Applicant:

Thank you for answering the call to serve!

Our Nation has a rich history of training our nation's military leaders. From the fields of Gettysburg to the sands of Omaha Beach military academy graduates have led this county through some of its most difficult days. Today, these same values are taught at service academies.

These Service Academies allow students to serve their nation while receiving a quality, tuition-free education at some of the nation's finest educational institutions. I take the privilege of nominating individuals to the Service Academies very seriously. I also strive to increase opportunities for our young constituents so they may be the next generation of brave military leaders.

Please use the information enclosed in this packet to submit an official application to my office. Best of luck in your future endeavors,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darren Soto".

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



TIMELINE OF EVENTS

April 1, 2023	Applications open/Spring Academy Day
August 19, 2023	Fall Academy Day
October 13, 2023	All applications Due
November 11, 2023	Selection Committee Interviews
November - December 2023	Nominees contacted

**Dates are subject to change. Please contact our office if you have any questions and check our social media accounts for updates.*

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



HOW NOMINATIONS ARE COMPLETED

Choosing the most qualified candidates to nominate to a United States Service Academy is an honor and no easy task. Nominations are based on a “whole-person” evaluation. This includes factors such as academic achievements, standardized test scores, extra-curricular activities, leadership skills, character, motivation, and letters of recommendation.

In order to ensure the utmost level of fairness and quality in this competitive nomination process, Congressman Soto has put together a group of qualified and experienced military individuals to serve on the Service Academy Nomination Board. This board will review all applications, interview all prospective nominees, and make their recommendations of the most qualified candidates for Congressman Soto.

Congressman Soto believes this is the fairest, most efficient and most practical way to select skilled and qualified candidates to nominate to the U.S. Service Academies.

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each applicant for a nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1st of the year of admission to an academy:

1. Be a citizen of the United States.
2. Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed your 23rd birthday.
3. Must reside within the boundaries of the 9th Congressional District of Florida.
4. Be unmarried, not pregnant and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
5. Must meet the medical, physical and academic requirements of the Academy.
6. Display strong moral character, leadership skills and unbending integrity.

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



APPLICATION PACKET INSTRUCTIONS

Your application is your first means of communication with the Service Academy Review Board. It will provide them with the necessary information to process your application for a Congressional Nomination.

Follow all instructions carefully:

1. Assemble your packet in the order of the Required Materials Checklist.
2. Do not send a full-sized photograph, only add a wallet-sized photo.
3. Be neat and precise.
4. Do not bend your packet.
5. Utilize the Required Materials Checklist. Please note, Congressman Soto's office will not notify you of an incomplete packet.
6. The information packet will be submitted to the Service Academy Review Board "as-is".
7. All candidate packets are kept confidential and will only be reviewed by members of the Congressman's staff and the Service Academy Review Board.
8. The due date for **ALL MATERIALS** is **Friday, October 13, 2023**. Late submissions of packets or individual pieces of information will only be accepted if they are received or postmarked prior to or on the submission deadline.
9. Do not staple any documents together.
10. Mail or drop off all packets to:

Congressman Darren Soto

Attn: Service Academy Applications

804 Bryan Street

Kissimmee, Florida 34741

*If you mail your packet it is **strongly** suggested you use a tracking number to ensure your application arrived.

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



REQUIRED MATERIALS CHECKLIST

All material must be submitted to Congressman Soto's Kissimmee District Office or postmarked by **Friday, October 13, 2023**.

Follow all instruction carefully:

- ☐ Application for nomination
 - Complete the entire application form
 - Please type or print neatly
 - Make sure to sign and date your application
- ☐ Materials from your school
 - Current class schedule
 - Official academic transcripts from high school (and college if applicable)
- ☐ Standardized test scores (SAT/ACT)
 - May be included on transcript
- ☐ Resume
 - Include extra-curricular activities starting in the 9th grade and employment history
- ☐ Essay answering the question “why I want to attend a military academy...”
 - Please keep your essay to 500 words or less
- ☐ Letters of Recommendation
 - Include at least 3 letters and no more than 5
 - Letters should be from people whom the applicant knows personally and should attest to the applicant’s character, motivation to serve and integrity. (I.e. teachers, counselors, employers, coaches, clergy, scout leaders...)



Please attach photo
here.
It should be a
recent picture and
no larger than
wallet size

2023 SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS APPLICATION

Full Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Current Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Parent's Number: _____

Parent's Email Address(s): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security No.: _____

School Last Attended: _____

Enrollment Date: _____ Graduation Date: _____ GPA: _____ Class Rank: _____

SAT SCORES:

Math: _____ Verbal: _____

ACT SCORES:

Composite: _____ Math: _____ Science: _____ English: _____ Reading: _____

APPLIED THROUGH OTHER SOURCES? (Please check all that apply):

_____ Senator Rick Scott _____ Senator Marco Rubio _____ Vice President _____ Other

Please rank the academy preference by numbering 1-4 below (ONLY NUMBER THE ACADEMIES WHERE YOU
PLAN TO APPLY/HAVE ALREADY APPLIED):

_____ US Military Academy _____ US Air Force Academy
_____ US Naval Academy _____ US Merchant Marine Academy

Name of hometown newspaper _____

Is it ok to use your name in a press release after receiving an appointment? Y / N

I hereby declare that I am a United State Citizen and a legal resident of Florida's Ninth Congressional District. In signing this application, I request that Congressman Darren Soto, consider my application for a Congressional nomination to one or more of the United States Service Academies. I understand and accept that the deadline for completed applications and all requested materials is: **Friday, October 13, 2023.**

LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS



Please remember all materials **MUST** be submitted or postmarked by **Friday, October 13, 2023.**

Submit all materials to:

Congressman Darren Soto

Attn: Service Academy Applications

804 Bryan Street

Kissimmee, FL 34741

Contact Information:

Joshua Bowes

fl09service.academy@mail.house.gov

Office: (407) 452-1171